

addition of some fresh illustrations: and we very much regret that the Author has not bestowed upon the present work that small amount of extra labour which would have rendered it complete in itself. As it stands, we have the Old-World Antelopes, but nothing about the Giraffes; the American Prong-horned Antelope is not mentioned (at least, it is not in the index), nor is the Rocky Mountain Goat (*Haplocerus montanus*); and the red-deer group is discussed, with barely an allusion to the Wapiti. This would have been intelligible if an arbitrary line had been drawn at Old-World species; but such is not the case, for there is a special chapter devoted to the deer of South America. The Elk and the Reindeer are treated under the head of "Asiatic Deer," but nothing is said about their American representatives beyond the incidental remarks that the former is not specifically distinct from the moose, nor the latter from the caribou. These and some other omissions diminish the value of a very readable and instructive work.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

February 21, 1894.—Dr. Henry Woodward, F.R.S.,  
President, in the Chair.

The following communication was read:—

"Note on the Genus *Naiadites*, as occurring in the Coal Formation of Nova Scotia." By Sir J. William Dawson, K.C.M.G., LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S. With an Appendix by Dr. Wheelton Hind, B.S., F.R.C.S., F.G.S.

The specimens referred to in the paper occur most abundantly in calcareo-bituminous shales along the coast, at the South Joggins, and were described by the Author in 'Acadian Geology,' in 1869. A collection of them has been submitted to Dr. Wheelton Hind. In Q. J. G. S. vol. xix. Mr. Salter referred the shells described as *Naiadites* to his new genera *Anthracoptera* and *Anthracomya*. In correspondence with Mr. Salter, the Author held that the shells were probably freshwater, and objected to the name *Anthracomya* as expressing an incorrect view of the affinity of the shells; he also stated several reasons in support of his opinions. The Author continued to use the name *Naiadites*, but does not object to the division of the species into two genera, for one of which Salter's name *Anthracoptera* should be retained. Additional reasons are given for the freshwater origin of these shells, and the Author expresses his gratification that their affinities have been so ably illustrated by Dr. Hind.

Dr. Wheelton Hind believes that the 'genus' *Naiadites* contains three distinct genera, for one of which the name must be retained.

He proposes to retain the name for the forms called *Anthracomya*, affirming as this word does an altogether wrong affinity for the genus. (The name *Naiadites* was proposed in 1860; *Anthracomya* in 1861.)

Dr. Hind is not able to state that any of the species submitted to him by Sir J. W. Dawson are the same as British forms. The shell originally described as *Naiadites carbonaria* is, he has no doubt, an *Anthracoptera*. He gives notes on *N. arenaria*, *N. angulata*, and *N. levis*.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Saw-flies on Solomon's Seal.* By W. F. KIRBY, F.L.S. &c.

FOR two years past plants of Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum* or *Convallaria multiflora*) growing in Dr. Günther's garden at Kew have been infested by saw-fly larvæ; and on the 6th of May of the present year Dr. Günther captured a considerable number of specimens of a saw-fly on the plant, which proved on examination to be *Phymatocera aterrima*, Klug. Although this species will probably be found to be common where its food-plant occurs, it does not seem to have been noticed in England except by Curtis, who described and figured it in vol. xxi. of the 'Transactions of the Linnean Society,' pp. 39-42, pl. v., as long ago as 1850, from specimens bred from larvæ received from Lord Goderich, who had noticed them for several years previously devouring the leaves of the only plant of Solomon's Seal in Lord Ripon's garden at Putney. Curtis called the insect *Selandria Robinsoni*, believing it to be undescribed.

The only other saw-fly noticed by Kalténbach in his 'Pflanzenfeinde' as feeding on *Convallaria multiflora* is *Blennocampa fuliginosa*, Schrank.

It is worthy of note that all the specimens of *P. aterrima* which Dr. Günther caught were males, which, it seems, appear a day or two before the females begin to emerge. With them was a single specimen of a *Blennocampa*, also a male—not, however, *B. fuliginosa*, but *B. fuscula*, Klug (= *pusilla*, Klug), a rose-feeding species, the presence of which among the specimens of *Phymatocera* was probably quite accidental.

As *Phymatocera aterrima* has been so rarely observed in England, it appears worth while to call attention to its re-occurrence. There were previously only two German specimens in the British Museum collection, and no British ones.

Although the day was warm and bright, the specimens were remarkably sluggish, and allowed themselves to be picked off with the fingers.

Natural History Museum, South Kensington,  
May 9 1894.